

evening were interspersed with election returns from different parts of the State, some genuine and some not. The latter adding to the enjoyment and perturbation of some of the members present.

At a late hour the meeting broke up with all joining in singing "America" and each and all felt that the Orange County Society had experienced one of its most successful annual meetings.

#### SACRAMENTO COUNTY.

The regular monthly meeting of the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement was held in the Sacramento Hotel, Tuesday evening, April 20.

Dr. Schopf reported a case of the unusual "mycosis fungoides." Dr. Gundrum reported a case, who had confused some head-ache powders with calomel powders (the latter of which she had been ordered to take one every hour) and in the course of twelve hours, had administered to herself, 48 grains of acetanilid and 37½ grains of phenacetine; aside from a marked cyanosis, nothing wrong was noted, the heart and blood-pressure remaining normal. Dr. Pitts reported a case of dextrocardia with transposition of the viscera (as shown and proved by the X-ray), with the liver on the left, spleen on the right, pylorus and appendix on the left side. Dr. James reported several cases of tracheal diphtheria occurring in the last few months, where the throat was clinically negative, but culture taken from a tracheal swab, proved positive; he emphasized the need in all cases of obstructed breathing, to have a culture taken from the vocal cords or trachea below.

The subject of the evening was on "chest roentgenology," with numerous lantern slides, by Dr. Harold Zimmerman, whose experiences as a special worker in X-ray had been abundantly enriched by his connection with the Letterman General Hospital as roentgenologist, during the period of the war and immediately thereafter; among the plates shown and demonstrated, were sarcoma and primary carcinoma of the lung; foreign bodies in the Bronchi; Pneumoconiosis; dermoid Cysts; cervical rib; various forms and in all stages, of Tuberculosis at the Hylum, peribronchial and alveolar areas; pneumothorax and hydro-pneumothorax; demonstrations of the difference between the pictures of the heart and mediastinum of children and adults; various anomalies of development; cotton seed oil, Acacia, and bismuth mixture for the tracing of cavities proved to be more efficient in Army service, than the usual form of Beck's Paste.

Doctors Christman, Bell and Beauchamp were elected to membership in the Society.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

During the month of April, 1920, the following meetings were held:

##### Tuesday, April 13—General Meeting

1. The truth about osteopathy—Emmet Rixford.
2. Eddies of Eddyism.—Mr. Celestine J. Sullivan.

##### Tuesday, April 20—Section on Surgery

1. The second great type of chronic arthritis.—(Illustrated)—L. W. Ely.

and

Dental conditions in these cases.—J. L. Campbell, D. D. S.

2. The open air treatment of wounds.—H. M. Sherman.

##### Tuesday, April 27—Section on Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat.

Symposium on Focal Infection.

1. Demonstration of cases.
2. Stock taking in mouth infections.—(Illustrated)—J. G. Sharp.

3. Relation of focal infection to internal medicine.—Lovell Langstroth.

4. Relation of focal infection to ophthalmology.—W. S. Franklin.

5. The ear, nose and throat as foci of infection.—Harvard McNaught.

#### SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

The regular monthly meeting of the San Joaquin County Medical Society was held on Friday evening, April 9th, at the Hotel Lincoln. In the absence of the president, first and second vice-presidents, Dr. E. A. Arthur presided. Those present were: Drs. E. A. Arthur, J. T. Davison, C. D. Holliger, W. T. McNeil, C. R. Harry, R. T. McGurk, J. P. Martin, Mary Taylor, Minerva Goodman, Hudson Smythe, Margaret Smythe, F. S. Marnell, B. J. Powell, D. R. Powell and Dr. Howard Ruggles of San Francisco as guest and speaker of the evening.

Dr. C. R. Harry presented an interesting case of Myxedema which is doing very nicely on Thyroid extract but who has the greatest reaction within a week's time when such treatment is discontinued. The doctor also displayed an unusually large gall stone which was of interest because it had been entirely overlooked at the time of the operation and had appeared spontaneously through the drainage wound several weeks later.

The speaker of the evening, Dr. Howard Ruggles, was next introduced and gave an interesting paper on "Lung Tumors." The doctor showed on the lantern screen many typical cases of tumors of the mediastinum and lung and also showed some of the X-Ray plates demonstrating these typical conditions. The paper was discussed by Dr. McGurk and Dr. Holliger and as there was no further business the meeting adjourned to enjoy a light luncheon.

### Correspondence

#### WHAT ONE READER THINKS.

Los Angeles, April 23, 1902.

To the Editor: For the first time in over two years, I received a copy of your valuable Journal, viz., the April 1920 number and I want to slip along a little note of appreciation. Although I have been receiving it since about 1912 or '13, and knew it was an excellent Journal, I did not fully appreciate just how good it really was. I might name all the articles (in fact it is hard to pick out any of them) but the ones entitled "Ouija Boards and Cult Cures," page 114; "Chiropractors Defy Law," page 115; "The Lady and The Tiger," page 116; "Cui Bono," page 131, shows that "somebody is doing some thinking along up-to-date and down-to-the-minute lines."

All I can do just now is to send in my little opinion and say "Let the good work go on," and try to express to you how much the Journal is appreciated at this office.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

FRANK A. WOODWARD, M. D.

#### DIET IN HAY FEVER

Cloverdale, Calif., April 29, 1920.

To the Editor:—I wish to report to you the results of several years of careful observation in the relief of hay fever (so called) which as we all know is caused by the pollen of certain grasses, plants and trees. This pollen is a highly concentrated vegetable protein substance readily soluble upon and absorbable by the mucous membranes of humans.

About 90% of all cases of so-called hay fever, rose cold, hay asthma, etc., may be relieved without medicine externally or internally by a rigid adherence to a proper diet. The phenomena of

hay fever is a constitutional reaction with local manifestations due to toxication by the absorption of pollen, a vegetable protein in a system already supersaturated with the animal and vegetable proteins.

The proofs of these observations have been checked up by having those who have suffered and been relieved by proper dietary measures, eat a meal rich in animal and vegetable proteins and within two to six hours' time the symptoms of hay fever would again become manifest if exposed to the offending pollen. These experiments have not only been proven on a goodly number of patients but on myself as well.

The directions given to patients, unless there be marked indication for a calomel purge or other eliminative treatment, is totally to abstain from medicine and all animal food such as beef, mutton, lean pork, veal, game, poultry, fish, shell fish, eggs, cheese and vegetable proteins to be found in dried beans, peas and lentils and the starch of potatoes.

These patients are told to eat all they require of rolled oat, wheat, graham or corn meal mush, graham bread, biscuits or muffins, corn bread, whole wheat bread with butter, all fresh or cooked fruits, orange, lemon or pomelo juice, salads, vegetable soups, greens and all fresh vegetables including green peas and string beans, fresh or canned; a little fat bacon may be used to flavor the vegetable dishes. Milk, tea or coffee may be taken in moderation if there is no contraindication.

A perfect system of diet can be given the patient so that a sufficient quantity and variety may be had to sustain life and render the patient free from the distressing symptoms of hay fever. This diet system will also help many cases of spasmodic asthma which are often due to auto-intoxication or protein anaphylaxis.

After a patient has been completely relieved, animal foods may again be taken in small quantities to test the patient's tolerance for protein; some are able to take more and other less while still others are unable to take any.

In offering this it is with the hope that other physicians may try and report the results of their observations that mine may be proved or disproved.

Yours fraternally,  
W. C. SHIPLEY, M. D.

## Department of Pharmacy and Chemistry

Edited by FELIX LENGFELD, Ph. D.  
Help the propaganda for reform by prescribing official preparations. The committees of the U. S. P. and N. F. are chosen from the very best therapeutists, pharmacologists, pharmacognosists and pharmacists. The formulae are carefully worked out and the products tested in scientifically equipped laboratories under the very best conditions. Is it not plausible to assume that these preparations are, at least, as good as those evolved with far inferior facilities by the mercenary nostrum maker who claims all the law will allow?

### YOU MUST RENEW YOUR FEDERAL NARCOTIC LICENSE DURING JUNE.

The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry was created because the complexity of modern medicine makes it a physical impossibility for physicians to know the scientific status of the many proprietary remedies which are on the market. As commercial agencies, such as Bradstreet and Dun report on the commercial probity of individuals and firms, so the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry reports on what might be called the scientific probity of proprietary and unofficial pharmaceutical remedies.

STANNOXYL has been refused admission to N. N. R. on the ground that its claims are unwarranted. Stannoxyl is a preparation of Stanous

oxide and tin. It has been noted that tin workers are apparently immune from boils and this led French investigators to the conclusion that tin might be a specific for Staphylococcal infection.

PLATT'S CHLORIDES have been refused admission to N. N. R. Platt's Chlorides consist of a solution of aluminum salts with zinc chloride and a little mercuric chloride. It may have some virtues when applied directly but certainly is absolutely inert when allowed to evaporate in a room for the purpose of disinfecting a room. What evaporates is merely water and there is no chlorine action as one might be led to believe from the label, etc.

MINERAL WATERS: The United States Department of Agriculture has condemned a number of American Mineral Waters most of which are apparently not sold on this Coast. Some of the Mineral Waters were found to be infected bacteriologically while others were not what they claimed to be. The physician should be careful before ordering any new Mineral Water to see that it has been thoroughly tested chemically and bacteriologically.

CHLORON, CHLORAX AND No. 3 are preparations which have not, as yet, reached California but are probably on the way. They have been found to do what they claim and to be injurious to the extent of depriving the patient of much needed medication.

ELARSEN has been omitted from the N. N. R. as it was found to have no advantage over Fowler's solution and its claims are not justified.

## Medicine Before the Bench

In this column will appear with appropriate comment, from month to month, court decisions and proceedings affecting the various phases of medical practice, the conduct of hospitals and the enforcement of public health laws.

### DR. F. J. PETR WINS SUIT.

In the May issue of the JOURNAL a brief reference was made to a suit for damages brought in Judge Pulcifer's court against Dr. F. J. Petr of Oakland. The complainant was S. Barranco, the husband of Marie Barranco, who alleged that Dr. Petr, whilst acting for the North American Hospital Association, performed an unnecessary abortion on Mrs. Barranco.

The evidence adduced established the following points:

That Dr. Petr was called to treat the patient, who was the plaintiff's wife, and found her suffering pain in the region of her uterus; that upon examination he found membrane protruding from the uterus into the vagina; that the patient told him that she had been pregnant for some six weeks, but that he diagnosed the pregnancy as being one of about four months; that the doctor put the patient to bed, prescribed rest, and left a prescription to be filled by a druggist, and left instructions to call him at once in case of need; that the doctor first visited the patient about 8 o'clock in the morning and visited her again about 4 o'clock p. m. on the same day; that upon the second occasion he made further examination with the assistance of a speculum and verified his opinion as to the age of the pregnancy; that he found that the miscarriage was already in course of taking place, although very gradually and that the woman had a similar occurrence some six or eight months before; that the doctor after advising the patient